



Using PixWriter™ – to Meet Writing Standards

McRel: Language Arts – Standards #3

Uses grammatical and mechanical conventions in written compositions.

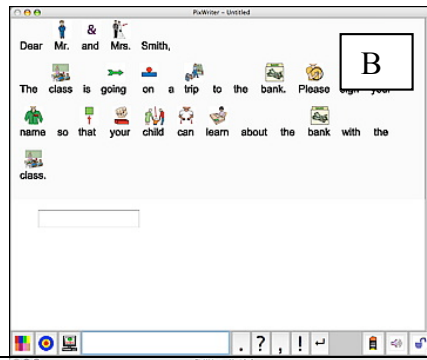
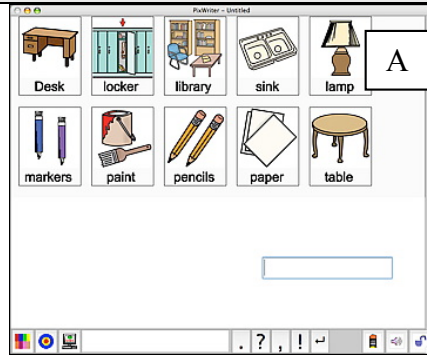
Level Pre-K

Pre-K

1. Applies rudimentary rules of grammar.

Knows that there are rules for forming sentences.

Recognizes varying formats and purposes of print: letters, lists, recipes, menus, labels, stories.



Educators use PixWriter to make lists, letters to parents, classroom recipes, labels, stories, etc.

A. PixWriter How To:

Make labels/PECS

Options menu: hide buttons, turn on PixCards, Select “larger pictures” 2 times.

Enter words.

Print and cut apart.

B. PixWriter How To:

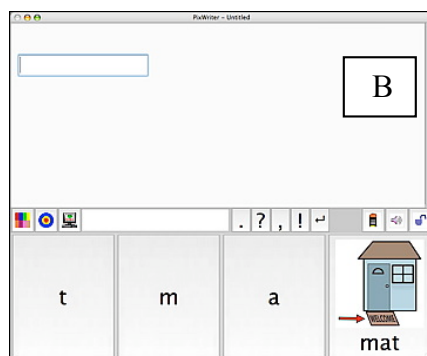
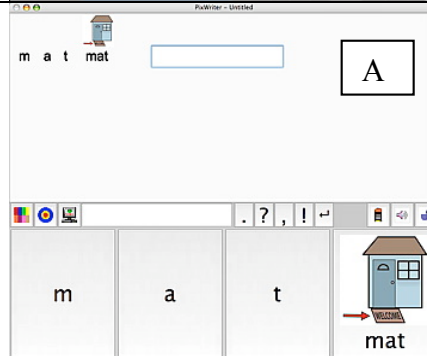
Options menu: turn off automatic capitalization. Hide the buttons.

Write the letter. Make target words as needed. Print and sign. Read with the class.

Pre-K

2. Uses phonetic knowledge to spell simple words.

(continued on next page)



A. PixWriter How To:

Options menu: 4 buttons, Turn off auto-capitalization

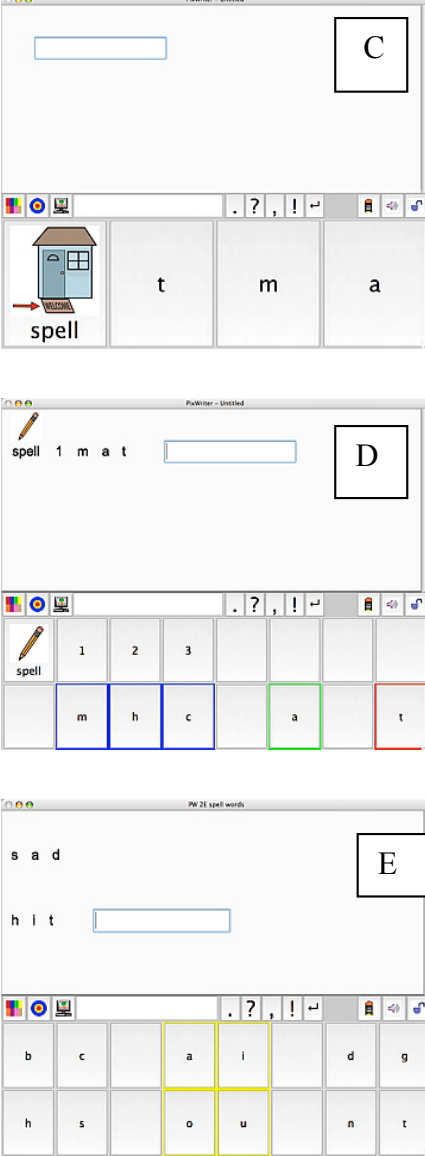
Put the letters in left-to-right order.


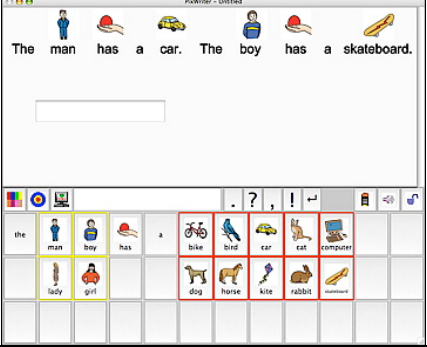

Put the complete word in the last button.

B. Mix the letters

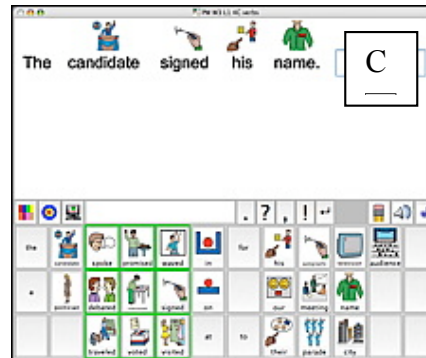
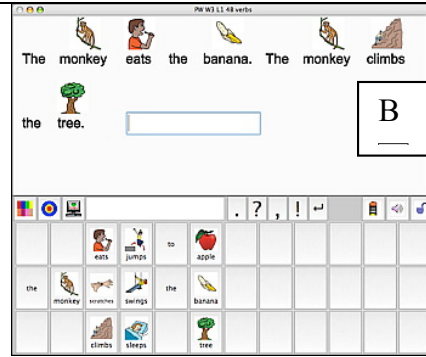
Scaffold: leave the visual model of the word in the last square.

Reduce Scaffold: Target word spell with image of the desired word. (See details in C below.)

<p>Pre-K Continued (2. Uses phonetic knowledge to spell simple words.)</p>		<p>C. PixWriter How To: Target word: spell Use image: mat (image for desired word) Say As: spell “mat” Add target. Clicking this button says, “Spell mat”. Tip: Use the quote marks to slow the speech.</p> <p>D. PixWriter How To: Target: spell Image: pencil Say as: spell Target: 1, Say as: mat Target: 2, Say as: hat Target: 3, Say as: cat</p> <p>Color-code the beginning letters, the vowel and the final letter. Scaffold – initial letters under the number of the word. Reduce scaffold – mix up the initial letters.</p> <p>E. PixWriter How To: Teacher gives spelling word. Student uses variety of letters to spell. Scaffold: Color code beginning sounds, vowels and final sounds. Reduce scaffold: color code only the vowels.</p>
Level I (grades K – 2)		
<p>L1 1. Uses conventions of print in writing.</p>		<p>PixWriter automatically starts at the top left of the paper and enters words left-to-right. PixWriter can automatically capitalize the first word in sentences. PixWriter correctly spaces after words and sentences.</p>

<p>L1 (K– 2)</p> <p>2. Uses complete sentences in written compositions.</p>		<p>A. PixWriter How To: Options menu: 4 Buttons Targets: put in sentence with punctuation. Image: select appropriate or import photos. Say As: enter sentence</p> <p>B. PixWriter How To: Options menu: 16 buttons Targets: phrases. Put punctuation in sentence ending phrases. Scaffold: organize buttons left-to-right to make a sentence. Organized in groups of thoughts.</p>
<p>L1 (K– 2)</p> <p>3. Uses nouns in written compositions.</p>		<p>PixWriter How To: Options menu: 36 buttons Color code nouns Scaffold: Structure a basic sentence pattern with multiple nouns for the subject and object of the sentence. Organize buttons nouns in groups.</p>
<p>L1 (K– 2)</p> <p>4. Uses verbs in written compositions.</p> <p><i>(continued on next page)</i></p>		<p>A. PixWriter How To: Options menu: 36 buttons Enter words to make simple Subject-Verb sentences. Organize – put all verbs together Color-code verbs</p>

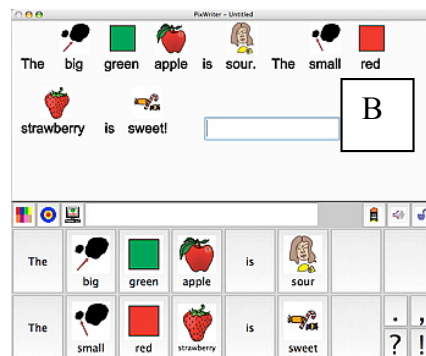
L1 (K– 2)
Continued
(4. Uses verbs in
written
compositions.)



B. PixWriter How To:
Options menu: 36 buttons
Enter words to make more complex
sentences with a variety of verbs.
Duplicate words: ‘the’
Organize words in left-to-right
groups

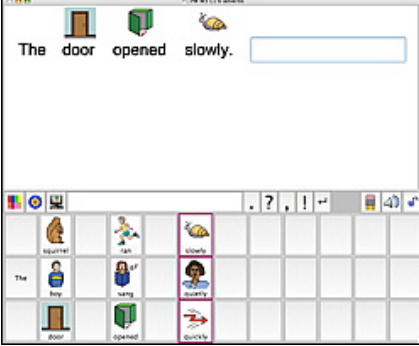
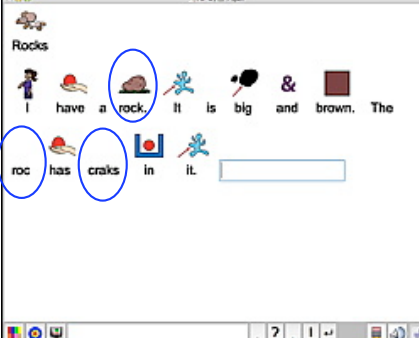
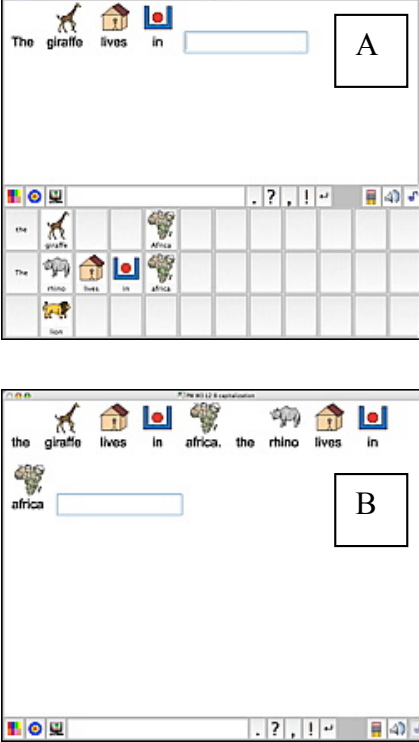
C. PixWriter How To:
Options menu: 36 buttons
Enter words to make more complex
sentences with a variety of verbs.
Color code the verbs

L1 (K– 2)
5. Uses adjectives in
written
compositions.



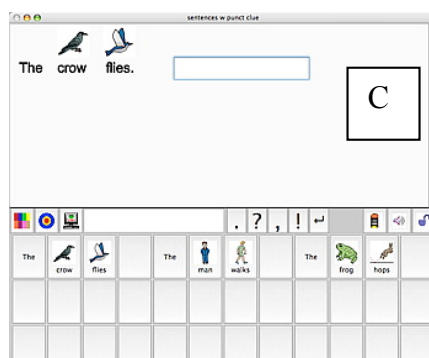
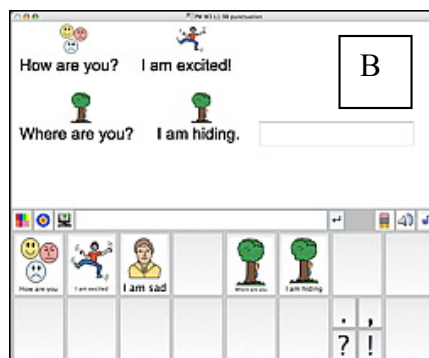
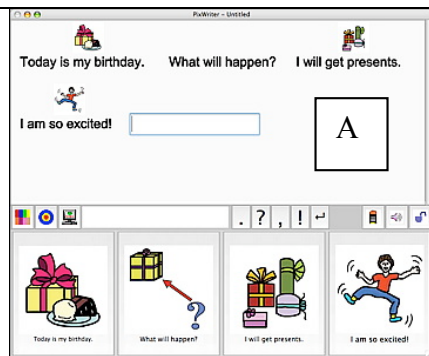
A. PixWriter How To
Options menu: 4 buttons, auto
capitalization off
Target: make phrases “adjective +
noun”
Image: select desired

B. PixWriter How To:
Options menu: 16 buttons,
Punctuation Big
Enter “The”. Duplicate “The”. Enter
big, small, green, red, apple,
strawberry, is. Duplicate “is”; Enter
sour, sweet.

<p>L1 (K– 2)</p> <p>6. Uses adverbs in written compositions.</p>		<p>PixWriter How To:</p> <p>Options menu: 36 buttons</p> <p>Enter the desired words.</p> <p>Organize in left-to-right order.</p> <p>Color-code the adverbs.</p> <p>Decrease supports: remove color codes, mix word order, add other words (eg adjectives, conjunctions) that are not adverbs.</p>
<p>L1 (K– 2)</p> <p>7. Uses conventions of spelling in written compositions.</p>		<p>PixWriter How To:</p> <p>Options menu: Hide Buttons</p> <p>As student writes with the keyboard, correctly spelled vocabulary words will have the related Literacy Support Picture. Misspelled words will not show the LSP. The speech feedback and lack of an LSP should clue to student to a misspelling.</p>
<p>L1 (K– 2)</p> <p>8. Uses conventions of capitalization in written compositions.</p>		<p>A. PixWriter How To:</p> <p>Options menu: 36 buttons, Auto capitalization off.</p> <p>Enter words with both capital letter and small letter. Student selects the desired form for the sentences.</p> <p>B. PixWriter How To:</p> <p>Options menu: Hide Buttons, Auto capitalization off.</p> <p>Student uses the keyboard to write.</p> <p>Student must use the Shift key to create capital letters.</p>

L1 (K– 2)

9. Uses conventions of punctuation in written compositions.



A. PixWriter How To:

Options menu: 4 Buttons

Targets: put in sentences with punctuation.

Image: select appropriate or import photos.

Say As: enter sentence

Variation shown: use sentences with period, question mark and exclamation point.

B. PixWriter How To:

Options menu: 16 buttons

Punctuation Big

Target: enter short sentences or questions in the Target Word box.

(max 23 characters)

Picture: select image

Use: student selects sentence button and adds the punctuation.

C. PixWriter How to:

Options menu: 16 or 36 buttons.

Enter words to make short sentences.

Shift + Click buttons to duplicate words such as 'the.'

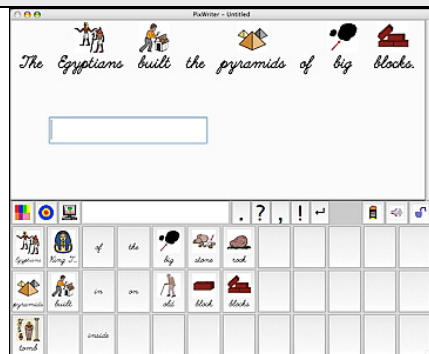
Scaffold: organize the words in left-to-right sequence.

Increase difficulty: mix up the words; mix sentence types. Increase sentence length.

Level II (Grades 3 - 5)

L2 (3 – 5)

1. Writes in cursive

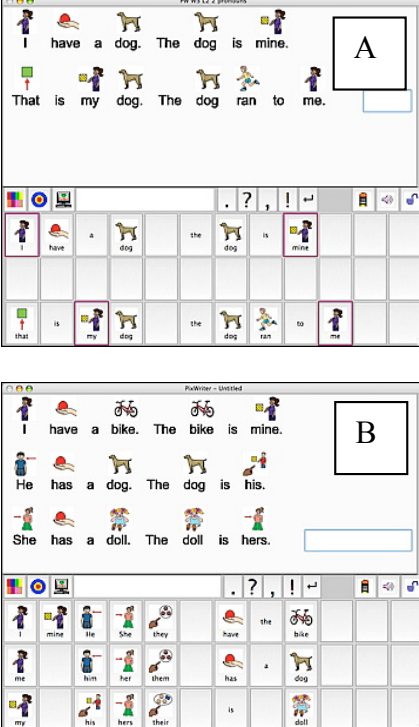
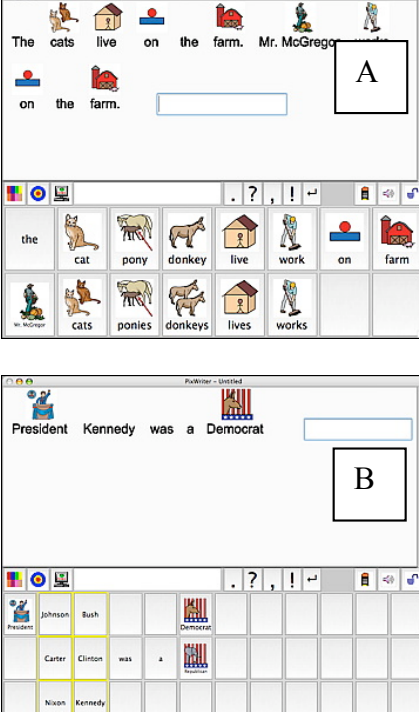


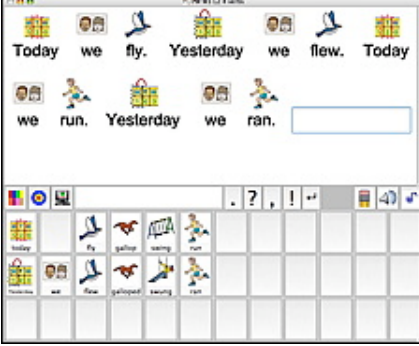
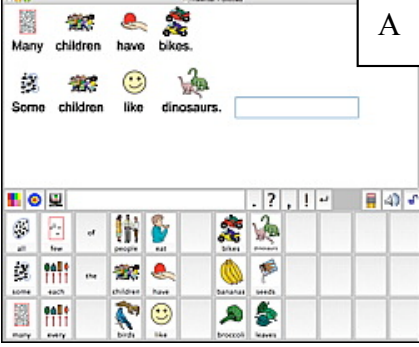
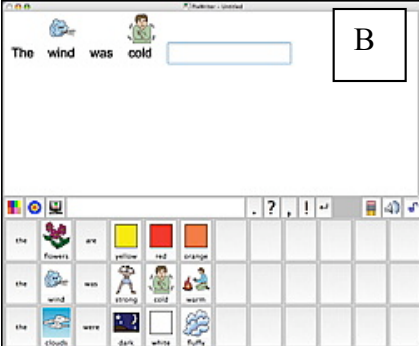
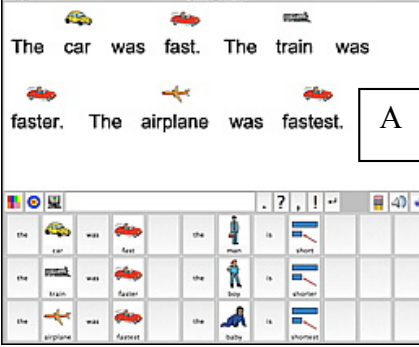
PixWriter How To:

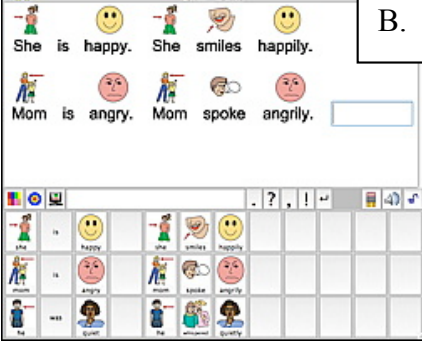
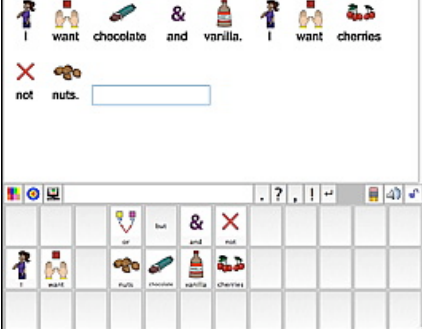
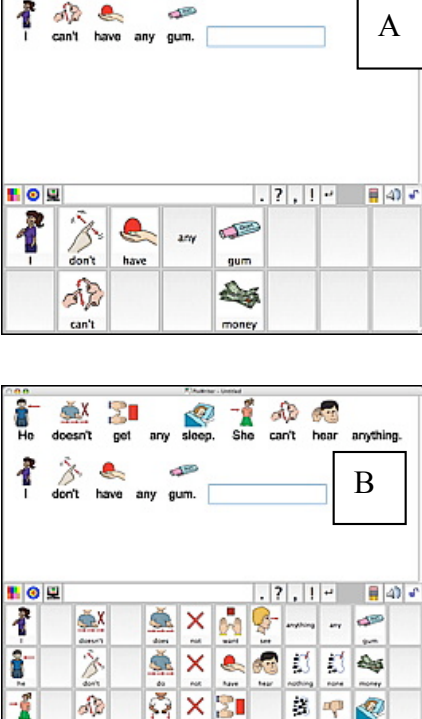
Font menu: select a cursive type font (may have to be purchased and installed. See Resources list)


Options menu:

Sync Document/Buttons Font

<p>L2 (3 – 5)</p> <p>2. Uses pronouns in written compositions</p> <p>(e.g., substitutes pronouns for nouns, uses pronoun agreement)</p>		<p>A. PixWriter How To: Options menu: 36 buttons Enter the desired pronouns and the words to make simple sentences. Scaffold: Organize buttons in left-to-right sequence to make complete sentences. Leave a space after last word in a sentence. Color-code the pronouns.</p> <p>B. PixWriter How To: Enter pronouns and enough words to make complete sentences. Organize pronouns in vertical lines (eg, He, him, his in a column) Scaffold: color-code buttons.</p>
<p>L2 (3 – 5)</p> <p>3. Uses nouns in written compositions</p> <p>(e.g., uses plural and singular naming words, forms regular and irregular plurals of nouns, uses common and proper nouns, uses nouns as subjects)</p>		<p>A. PixWriter How To: Options menu: 16 buttons Target word: Mr. McGregor with image of farmer. Scaffold: organize singular words above plural words.</p> <p>B. PixWriter How To: Target Word: Import photos of presidents Increase difficulty: do not use pictures on name buttons. Target Word: Bush – click No Picture</p>

<p>L2 (3 – 5)</p> <p>4. Uses verbs in written compositions (e.g., uses a wide variety of action verbs, past and present verb tenses, simple tenses, forms of regular verbs, verbs that agree with the subject)</p>		<p>PixWriter How To: Options menu: 36 buttons Shift and drag buttons to organize them. Put present tense verbs in one row and past tense verbs in another row. Increase difficulty: mix the order of the words.</p>
<p>L2 (3 – 5)</p> <p>5. Uses adjectives in written compositions (e.g., indefinite, numerical, predicate adjectives)</p>	<div>  <p>A</p> </div> <div>  <p>B</p> </div>	<p>A. PixWriter How To: Options menu: 36 buttons. Enter the indefinite adjectives first, then enter more words to make sentences. Group the words if desired.</p> <p>B. PixWriter How To: Options menu: 36 buttons Enter “the”. Shift + Click “the” two times. Enter 3 nouns. Enter the predicate adjectives. Organize them in to groups if desired.</p>
<p>L2 (3 – 5)</p> <p>6. Uses adverbs in written compositions (e.g., to make comparisons)</p> <p><i>(continued on next page)</i></p>	 <p>A</p>	<p>A. PixWriter How To: Options menu: 36 buttons Enter “the”. Shift + click to duplicate “the” 2 times. Enter three nouns. Enter “was”. Shift + click to duplicate “was” 2 times. Enter the adverbs. Repeat for another set of sentences if desired.</p>

<p>L2 (3 – 5) Continued (6. Uses adverbs in written compositions. e.g., to make comparisons)</p>	 <p>B.</p>	<p>B. PixWriter How To: Options menu: 36 buttons Enter the 3 simple subjects (e.g., he, she, mom, dad). Enter verb “is” or “was”. Shift + Click the verb to make duplicate buttons. Enter 3 adjectives (e.g., happy, quiet, angry). Shift + Click to duplicate the subjects. Position as desired. Enter 3 verbs such as smiled, spoke, whispered. Position as desired. Enter correct adverbs. Shift + drag to position them.</p>
<p>L2 (3 – 5) 7. Uses coordinating conjunctions in written compositions (e.g., links ideas using connecting words)</p>		<p>PixWriter How To: Options menu: 36 buttons Organize conjunctions in one row. Color-code if desired.</p>
<p>L2 (3 – 5) 8. Uses negatives in written compositions (e.g., avoids double negatives)</p>	 <p>A</p> <p>B</p>	<p>A. PixWriter How To: Options menu: 16 buttons Enter a few words that will make correct sentences. Organize and color- code them if desired.</p> <p>B. PixWriter How To: Options menu: 36 buttons Add additional words. Include some that would make incorrect sentences (eg use double negatives).</p>

<p>L2 (3 – 5)</p> <p>9. Uses conventions of spelling in written compositions (e.g., spells high frequency, commonly misspelled words from appropriate grade-level list; uses a dictionary and other resources to spell words; uses initial consonant substitution to spell related words; uses vowel combinations for correct spelling; uses contractions, compounds, roots, suffixes, prefixes, and syllable constructions to spell words)</p>		<p>PixWriter How To:</p> <p>This writing activity takes a bit more time to plan and select the words.</p> <p>Options menu: no pictures on buttons.</p> <p>Target words: enter the words and select ‘use no picture’ for each one.</p> <p>Lock Word bank when done.</p> <p>Use: Student can select the buttons and write with just words. The student could also use the keyboard to write additional words (which may show a Literacy Support Picture if not Targeted to show no picture).</p>
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PixWriter Notes

All of the examples in this chart were made with PixWriter 3.0 from Slater Software, Inc.

Earlier versions of PixWriter do not have 4 button word banks, a Tool Bar, Selectable Big Punctuation, Speak and Erase, ability to duplicate buttons, etc. PixWriter upgrades are available from Slater Software. 877-306-6968.

PixWriter screens in this handout show what a student’s written work would look like.

The final steps of preparing a PixWriter Word Bank are:

- 1) Press Escape to clear the paper.
- 2) Lock the word bank to prevent changes

Resources List

McRel Standards <http://www.mcrel.org/compendium/SubjectTopics.asp?SubjectID=7>

Cursive Fonts (Internet search words ‘cursive fonts’):

<http://freefontlibrary.net/>, <http://fonts4teachers.com>, www.fonts.com,

http://desktoppub.about.com/od/fonts/1/bl_hs_cursive.htm, <http://www.free-fonts.com/font/cursive.html>

NOTE: A listing here does not indicate the font has been tested with PixWriter nor does it imply an endorsement of the font or source by Slater Software, Inc.

Go to <http://www.slatersoftware.com> for free files every month. Most files are saved as .pdf and do not require Picture It or PixWriter. If a file is PixWriter it will be labeled for either Macintosh or Windows.